

NATIONAL TEACHER  
APPRECIATION WEEK

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to support this resolution to commemorate National Teacher Appreciation Week and to recognize the importance of teachers in ensuring that Americans receive a quality education.

Teachers are heroes in our communities. None of us in Congress would be where we are today without the influence of those teachers who shaped our lives. They corrected us when we were wrong and they praised us when we were right. They taught us how to read and write, think critically, add and subtract, and they opened our minds to past events, scientific discoveries, and different cultures and civilizations. They encouraged us to follow our dreams and inspired us to reach our full potential.

My parents were educators in this vein. My father served as the first President of Bishop College in Mobile, Alabama, and my mother worked as a librarian. I saw through them how our teachers work miracles in the classroom day in and day out. They truly deserve the strongest praise we have to offer.

Benjamin Franklin once said that "an investment in education pays the best dividends." It is our teachers who are responsible for the value of that investment, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in commemorating them for their outstanding work.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF IWAO MATSUDA TO THE US-JAPAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

**HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO**

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Iwao Matsuda, Co-chairman of the U.S.-Japan Legislative Exchange Program (LEP).

LEP is the longest standing and among the most successful legislative exchange programs in the U.S. Congress. This week marks LEP's 22nd year and 43rd consecutive session. Mr. Matsuda has played a tremendous role in making LEP a rewarding program.

I have had the privilege of participating in several LEP meetings with Mr. Matsuda. He has been a remarkable leader of LEP and representative of the people of Japan.

As a member of the Japan Diet, Mr. Matsuda was troubled by the sometimes bitter trade disputes between the United States and Japan and wanted to find a way to improve communications and understanding among the legislatures of Japan and the United States. In 1988, Mr. Matsuda took the far-sighted initiative of contacting friends in the U.S. Congress and at the George Washington University to create a program that would encourage personal and informal discussions among U.S. and Japanese parliamentarians. This was the beginnings of LEP.

As time passed, Mr. Matsuda sought to expand the U.S.-Japan Legislative Exchange Program to include members of the South Korean National Assembly and initiated in 2003 the U.S.-Japan-South Korea Trilateral Legislative Exchange Program (TLEP), which meets regularly with LEP to foster closer ties and understanding among the democratic legislatures of the three countries.

After twenty-plus years of public service, Mr. Matsuda, a true visionary of the promotion of democratic ideals, will be retiring, and this will be his last LEP session.

Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much), Mr. Matsuda, for all that you have done to strengthen U.S.-Japan-South Korean friendships and expand understanding among the free peoples of the Asian-Pacific region and the world at large.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to explain how I would have voted on rollcall votes cast on April 29, 2010. Due to prior commitments in Houston, I was returning home and was not able to make the last series of votes. Had I been present, I would have voted on the following:

"No," on rollcall vote #234, the Foxx of North Carolina Amendment;

"No," on rollcall vote #235, the Gutierrez of Illinois Amendment No. Two;

"No," on rollcall vote #236, the Gutierrez of Illinois Amendment No. Three;

"Yes," on rollcall vote #237, the Burton of Indiana Amendment;

"No," on rollcall vote #238, the Velázquez of New York Amendment No. Five;

"No," on rollcall vote #239, the Velázquez of New York Amendment No. Six;

"No," on rollcall vote #240, the Velázquez of New York Amendment No. Seven;

"No," on rollcall vote #241, the Motion to Recommit on H.R. 2499 the Puerto Rico Democracy Act;

"Yes," on rollcall vote #242, on passage of H.R. 2499 the Puerto Rico Democracy Act.

Madam Speaker, I am a cosponsor of H.R. 2499, and strongly supported its passage in a statement made last week. I am pleased this legislation has passed the House and hope to see it move forward in the Senate to give the people of Puerto Rico and opportunity to determine their future.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL  
DAVID FURNESS, USMC

**HON. IKE SKELTON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, today I recognize and pay tribute to Colonel David Furness, United States Marine Corps, on the occasion of his transfer from the liaison office. I, and many other members of this chamber, have had the pleasure of working with him

over the past two years that he has served as part of U.S. Marine Corps Office of Legislative Affairs and as the Director of the USMC Liaison Office in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Colonel Furness expertly represented the Marine Corps on all matters in the U.S. House of Representatives and spearheaded the Marine Corps' most difficult and challenging legislative initiatives from June 2008 to May 2010. Through his direct and skillful interaction with Members of Congress, he ensured that Marine Corps requirements were widely understood by key Members and staff to guarantee the best possible support to the Marine Corps. He also successfully oversaw, planned, coordinated, and escorted more than 150 international and domestic trips for high-level Congressional and Staff Delegations.

Furthermore, Colonel Furness managed, trained and mentored a team of Legislative Liaison Officers and House Legislative Fellows and created an environment that fostered teamwork and professionalism. He led Company and Field Grade Officers and ensured they better understood both the message of the Commandant and the role of the Congress in National Security matters. Colonel Furness contributed immeasurably to making capable Liaison Officers who will return to the Marine Corps Fleet with a better understanding of how Congress and the Corps work closely together to win our Nation's battles.

Through it all, Colonel Furness has been able to ensure that Members of Congress and their staffs never forget the purpose and focus of the Marine Corps: the Marines themselves.

Madam Speaker, through all of these actions, and many more, Colonel Furness has maintained and improved the U.S. House of Representatives' view of the Marine Corps. His performance has made a lasting impact on the readiness of the Marine Corps, laying the groundwork for continued Marine successes on Capitol Hill.

INTRODUCTION OF OUTDOOR  
LIGHTING EFFICIENCY BILL, H.R.  
5201

**HON. JANE HARMAN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, three years ago, Congressman UPTON and I introduced legislation—which became law in 2007 as part of the Energy Independence and Security Act—that will revolutionize the way Americans light their homes.

Our legislation banned the famously inefficient 100-watt incandescent light bulb by 2012, will phase out remaining inefficient light bulbs by 2014, and requires that light bulbs be at least three times as efficient as today's 100-watt incandescent bulb by 2020.

That bill was the product of bipartisan and bicameral efforts to forge a consensus between industry and environmental groups. The result was not only broadly accepted, it was groundbreaking. The Alliance to Save Energy estimates that the provisions will eventually save \$18 billion in energy costs every year, and prevent the emission of 100 million tons of carbon dioxide annually by 2030. That's the equivalent of taking 20 million cars off the road.